



**Child Fatality Review Panel
Meeting Minutes/Held Via Secure Teams
March 22, 2023**

Members

Kirsten Bechtel, Co-Chair, Pediatrician, Yale New Haven Hospital
Sarah Eagan, Co-Chair, Office of the Child Advocate
Brett Salafia, Assistant States Attorney
Angela Jimenez, Department of Public Health
SGT. Christine Jeltema, Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection
Pina Violano, Community Health, Healthcare Consultants, LLC
Ted Rosenkrantz, UCONN Health Center
TJ Michalski, Village for Families and Children
Ken Mysogland, Department of Children and Families
Ivis Arroyo, Hartford PD
Andrea Barton Reeves, Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Authority

Excused

Tonya Johnson CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Gregory Vincent, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
Liz Corley, Clifford Beers
Steven Rogers, Injury Prevention, Connecticut Children's Medical Center
Michael Soltis, Pediatrician, Connecticut Children's Medical Center

Guests

Kimberly Karanda, DHMAS
Jaclyn Meserole, OCME
Ada Booth, MD CCMC-SCAN
Miriam Miller, Policy Director-DPH
Tessi Peralta, CCMC
Peter Yazbak, DCF
Sean Reeves, Advocate for Gun Violence prevention
Celeste Jorge, DPH
Rosemary Wieworka, Department of Children and Families

OCA Staff

Brendan Burke
Lucy Orellano

Minutes

A motion was made by to approve the minutes Pina Violano for February 22, 2023, with correction to Proposed legislation by DPH noted in minutes was called Infant Mortality Review not Fetal Mortality Review. A second to the motion was made by TJ Michalski.

Overview of recent cases- Brendan Burke-

The OCA was notified of five fatalities that met the criteria for review, by the OCME since our last meeting. Some of the cases have been signed out the others are pending further study to determine cause and manner. Included in the cases there were 2 MVA's.

Firearm Violence Prevention Advocate-Sean Reeves Sr.-

Sean Reeves Sr. is a community advocate for gun violence prevention, who uses his lived experience to help his community. There are currently resources to help stop gun violence however the communities that could benefit from these services don't always know how to access these supports. Early childhood engagement in both extracurricular activities and medical care can make a huge difference in the life of a child. Free out of community summerlong summer camps could make a difference in the lives of these young children. More programs are needed for teenagers who are exposed to gun violence, most services including afterschool end at age 14. Teenagers in underserved communities are often left to their own devices. Appropriate and consistent education and vocational training are desperately needed in these communities.

Discussion:

Lived experience could be a useful tool to help state agencies gain a better understanding of the lives of the children we all advocate for. Mr. Reeves was invited to share his powerful story with other stakeholders. A recommendation was made by Ken Mysogland that the CFRP should consider including individuals with lived experience in discussion regularly.

Youth Risk Behavior Survey- Celeste Jorge, DPH-

YRBS was renamed the CT School Health Survey (CSHS), is a survey that is filled out by participating schools. Two thirds of the questions are nationally asked and one third can be edited by the participating states to collect state specific data. Participation is voluntary. Questions asked ranged from physical safety (seatbelts, substance use) to behavioral health concerns (depression, suicidal ideation, and attempts) and are answered on a voluntary basis. New questions added for 2023 will ask about adverse childhood experiences. [Connecticut School Health Survey](#)

Related Links-

<https://ctvideo.ct.gov/oca/Child Fatality Review Team 20230322 090307-Meeting Recording1.mp4>
<https://ctvideo.ct.gov/oca/Child Fatality Review Team 20230322 103118-Meeting Recording1.mp4>

Legislative update-

Members were invited to share bills with the group that may require testimony or support.

Old Business- None

Motion to Adjourn- Made by Brett Salafia and seconded by Pina Violano.

Next meeting- April 26, 2023